

Philippine Government.

The President evidently believes that Aguinaldo means to surrender and caused the Secretary of State to telegraph President Schurman of the Philippines Commission the nature of the proposed government.

It is to be more civil than military, and somewhat similar, although a little more liberal, even, than that now in operation in Porto Rico. The head of the government will be a Governor, whose functions will be civil, although he may be a military man.

There will be an advisory council composed of natives of the Philippines, whose business it will be to confer with the Governor on official matters and suggest changes in the manner of exercising authority. The local governments will be entirely in the hands of natives, subject to certain supervision by American authorities. The plan proposed amounts practically to an autonomous system, and it is believed here that it will be acceptable to the natives. It will continue only until Congress decides what shall be the character of the permanent government of the islands.

It would almost seem as through the Americans were a little too sanguine of peace when almost simultaneously Aguinaldo cabled the Filipino Junta in London as follows:

"The Filipino government, in accordance with the general feeling of the country, has decided to continue the war at all costs until independence is secured. The Filipinos energetically refuse the Americans' peace overtures, based on restrictive autonomy coupled with promise of a subsequent self-government.

"The Filipinos demand a strict fulfillment of the articles of the American Constitution and treaties contracted by the American representatives when imploring a Filipino alliance in combatting the Spaniards.

"All the Filipino Generals support Aguinaldo. General Luna's reported overtures for peace are untrue. Our army is near Manila, simultaneously attacking the whole American line. The heat and rains are causing many casualties in the American Army. All the hospitals are crowded with sick and wounded. Four hundred of the Cincinnati Regiment have been imprisoned by General Otis for insubordination in refusing to fight. The regular troops quartered in Manila and other towns are quiet. The volunteers are abused and always at the front with scanty rations. The discontent between the Americans and Europeans is general."

Coroner—"Was the victim conscious when you reached him?" Pat—"Yis, sor; he worr. But bechune us, I don't belave he knew ut."—*Philadelphia North American*.

Process of Americanizing.

It is dawning upon the Cubans that American methods are very different from the Spanish. *La Patria* one of the best edited and most influential papers in Havana says editorially:

"If any shadow of doubt could remain as to the absolutely imperative necessity of the expulsion of the old Spanish regime in order that Cuba may have true liberty and progress it must vanish when one analyzes the series of phenomena developed before our sight day by day. We are eliminating traditional impediments and getting rid of the apparently impassable obstacles which four centuries of evil training in political administration had thrown in our path."

La Patria goes on to contrast the American method with that of the "obstinate Spanish," in dealing with even the simplest reforms. On this point it says:

"Formerly there was agitation among the people; oceans of ink and tons of paper were used; floods of oratory were poured out, and then everything ended at Madrid in the froth of Spanish promises. On the other hand, in these days of fruitful though silent work, we learn of the most radical reforms when they are published in the Official Gazette without being preceded by a magnificent conglomeration of oratory and colored fire. An order of six lines, with a very short preamble, will represent some bold and beneficent measure. I might say that for us, a thin sheet of paper separates the mediaeval world from the nineteenth century and oftentimes the writing is not indispensable to enable us to pass from darkness to light."

As an illustration of its argument, *La Patria* cites the separation of church and state and draws a picture of "the wild parliamentary scenes" that would have occurred if such a subject had been agitated in the eighteenth century. "Yet this has been accomplished," it says, "by the Americans, and through this a thousand enormities have been effaced."

An Exception.

After the reports of lynching and actually roasting negroes alive in the south it is refreshing to find that there are notable exceptions. The associated press says: Frank W. McCarthy, one of the most prominent negroes in Southwest Georgia died at his home May 9. His funeral was held here on the 10th, and was attended by an immense throng of both whites and blacks. For the first time in the history of Albany, a town of 8000 inhabitants, every store and office was closed in honor of a negro, no business being transacted while the funeral was in progress. McCarthy never dabbled in politics, but was probably the most influential negro in the country. His death is deplored by white and colored people.

English Opinion.

Lord Salisbury's measured neglect of national prejudices continues to occupy public attention. Things are not going well in China, and anxiety is felt as to the failure of the recent attempt to come to an understanding with Russia. Anxiety is also caused by American difficulties in the Philippines, and the reported statement of General Lawton that 100,000 men would be required to conquer and hold the islands has induced certain scribes to predict the abandonment of American possessions in the Far East. Jingo England would be very, very sorry if Uncle Sam abandoned his imperial projects. Those acquainted with the American character are aware how little foundation there is for the rumor. That temporary checks are irritating when fighting in a vile climate with a race "half devil and half child" is fully intelligible; but after the object-lesson of our costly scuttle from the Transvaal and the Sudan, it is incredible that the United States will dream of relinquishing the burden of her responsibilities in the Far East, whatever may be the destiny provided for the Filipinos when law and order are established.—*London correspondent in Harpers' Weekly*.

Spheres of Influence.

The correspondence between England and Russia has been made public and is interesting as showing the agreement as to the spheres of influence of the powers in China.

In clause 1 Great Britain engages not to seek either for herself or in behalf of others railway concessions north of the Great Wall, and not to obstruct Russian applications for concessions in that region.

In clause 2 Russia makes a similar agreement toward Great Britain relative to the basin of the Yang-tse.

Clause 3 says that the contract from the parties, having in no wise in view to infringe in any way the sovereign rights of China or existing treaties, will not fail to communicate to the Chinese Government the present arrangement, which, by averting all cause of complications between them, is of a nature to maintain peace in the Far East and serve the interests of China herself.

A second note, forming an addendum to the first, commences: "In order to complete the notes exchanged respecting the partition of spheres for concessions for railways in China," and then proceeds to record an agreement regarding the New Chwang Railway, protecting rights acquired under the loan contract and providing that the railway must remain a Chinese line, subject to the Central Government, and cannot be mortgaged or alienated to a non-Chinese company.

Notes

The Eastern peoples are generally sharply distinguished from Europeans by the "quiescence." The Chinaman, for example, can write all day, work all day, stand in one position all day, weave, beat gold, carry ivory, do infinitely tedious jobs for ever and ever, and discover no more weariness and irritation than if he were a machine. This quality appears in early life. There are no restless, naughty boys in China. They are all appealingly good, and will plod away in school without recesses or recreation of any kind. The Chinaman can do without exercise. Sport or play seems to him so much waste labor. He can sleep anywhere, and in any position—amid rattling machinery, deafening uproar, squealing children, and quarrelling adults.

France is passing through a renewal of excitement attending the Dreyfus case. The *Figaro*, an influential daily newspaper, has made some startling revelations which, if true, prove conclusively that the conviction of the famous prisoner was the grossest parody on justice in the annals of the French nation. The conviction of Dreyfus was based on a secret dossier, the documents comprising which neither the accused nor his counsel were permitted to see. Men high in civil and military life declared the prisoner to be guilty, and he was accordingly condemned. The *Figaro*, by some means, has obtained copies of these secret documents, which have been so zealously guarded, and has made them public. Further revelations are to follow. The outcome is problematical, for although much of the evidence of the dossier, it is believed, can be proven to be false, revision would mean the indictment of men of such prominence, that even the scandal attending the Panama revelations would be outdone.

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